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March 2, 2001

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

MAR 05 2001

Nancy Cole, Supervisor
Docket Control
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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IT CORP COMMISSION
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Re: Gila Bend Power Partners
(Docket No. L-00000V-01-109
(Case No. 109)

Dear Ms. Cole:


Enclosed for consideration and possible use by the members of the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee and the Arizona Corporation Commission are the original and 25 copies of a suggested form of decision and Certificate of Environmental Compatibility in connection with the above-captioned proceeding.

Gila Bend Power Partners will submit the enclosed proposed form of decision and Certificate as a part of its direct case evidentiary presentation during the forthcoming March 12, 2001 hearing before the Siting Committee.

Nancy Cole, Supervisor
March 2, 2001
Page 2

Please let me know in the event you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lawrence V. Robertson, Jr.".

Lawrence V. Robertson, Jr.

LVR:cl

enclosure

cc: Teena Wolfe, ACC Legal Division
Gila Bend Power Partners
Karen L. Peters

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Applicant

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**BEFORE THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND
TRANSMISSION LINE SITING COMMITTEE**

In the matter of the Application of Gila Bend Power)
Partners and its assigns, in conformance with the)
requirements of Arizona Revised Statutes 40-360.03)
and 40-360.06 for a certificate of environmental)
compatibility authorizing construction of one 500 kV)
transmission line and the Watermelon Switchyard in)
Maricopa County, Arizona originating at the proposed)
Gila Bend Power Partners Power Project located)
northwest of the center of the Town of Gila Bend,)
Arizona (Section 19, Township 5 South, Range 5)
West, G&SRB&M) and terminating at the proposed)
Watermelon Switchyard (Section 22, Township 5)
South, Range 4 West G&SRB&M) a distance of)
approximately 9 miles.)

DOCKET NO. L-00000V-00-0109
(CASE NO. 109)

**DECISION OF THE ARIZONA POWER PLANT AND TRANSMISSION LINE SITING
COMMITTEE AND CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY.**

Pursuant to the notice given as provided by law, the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission
Line Siting Committee ("Committee") held a public hearing at the Best Western Executive Park
Hotel, 1100 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, on March 12, 2001, in conformance with the
requirements of Arizona Revised Statutes §40-360 et seq., for the purpose of receiving evidence and
deliberating upon the Application of Gila Bend Power Partners, L.L.C. and its assigns ("Applicant")
for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility in the above-captioned case.

1 The following members and designees of members of the Committee were present for the
2 evidentiary presentation during the March 12, 2001 hearing, and for the deliberations and vote on
3 the Application:
4

5 Laurie Woodall	Chair, and Designee for Arizona Attorney General Janet Napolitano
6	
7	Arizona Corporation Commission
8	Arizona Department of Commerce
9	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
10	Arizona Department of Water Resources
11	Appointed Member
12	Appointed Member
13	Appointed Member
14	Appointed Member
15	Appointed Member
16	

17 The Applicant was represented by Lawrence V. Robertson, Jr. of Munger Chadwick, P.L.C.
18 An appearance of record was also entered for Karen L. Peters, Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, L.L.P..
19 Staff of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") was represented by its counsel, Teena
20 Wolfe.
21

22 At the conclusion of the public hearing, after consideration of (i) the Application and the
23 evidence presented during the public hearing, and (ii) the legal requirements of Arizona Revised
24 statutes §§40-360 to 40-360.13 and A.A.C. R14-3-213, upon motion duly made and seconded, the
25 Committee voted to grant Applicant the following Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (Case
26 No. 109).
27
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1 Applicant is hereby granted a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for authority to
2 construct the following facilities, as requested in the Application: (i) a 500 kV transmission line,
3 including a partial 230 kV underbuild, (ii) 500 kV switchyard and (iii) a 500 kV interconnection.

4
5 The 500 kV transmission line will originate at Applicant's recently certificated electric
6 generation station (Case No. 106), located approximately 6 miles northwest of the central portion
7 of the Town of Gila Bend, Arizona, in Section 19, Township 5 South, Range 5 West, G&SRBM,
8 Maricopa County, Arizona, and follow an easterly alignment for approximately 9 miles, terminating
9 at Applicant's proposed Watermelon Switchyard in the SW 1/4 of Section 22, Township 5 South,
10 Range 4 West, G&SRBM, Maricopa County, Arizona. The 500 kV transmission line alignment will
11 parallel and be adjacent to Watermelon Road for approximately 7.5 miles, and the remaining 1.5
12 miles will extend easterly from that point where Watermelon Road terminates at State Highway 85.
13 The first 3.5 miles of that alignment, commencing at Applicant's electric generation station, will
14 border the north or south side of Watermelon Road, depending upon the ultimate results of
15 Applicant's right-of-way acquisition activities. The remaining 5.5 miles of alignment will be on the
16 south side of Watermelon Road, and that portion of the 500 kV transmission line hereby certificated
17 will include approximately 5.5 miles of underbuild of Arizona Public Service Company's ("APS")
18 existing 230 kV transmission line located on the south side of Watermelon Road. The design, height
19 and material composition of the 500 kV and 230 kV transmission line facilities shall be as set forth
20 in the Application and supporting exhibits.
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24 The 500 kV Watermelon Switchyard will be located on approximately 40 acres in the SW
25 1/4 of Section 22, Township 5 South, Range 4 West, G&SRB&M. It will serve both as the
26 termination point of the 500 kV transmission line hereby certificated, and as the point of
27
28

1 interconnection of that transmission line with the two 500 kV transmission lines previously
2 certificated to APS in Case No. 102. The design, height and material composition of the
3 Watermelon Switchyard facilities shall be as set forth in the Application and supporting exhibits.
4

5 The 500 kV interconnection at the Watermelon Switchyard will ultimately interconnect
6 Applicant's Gila Bend electric generation station with the Hassayampa Switchyard via the two 500
7 kV transmission lines certificated by the Committee in Case No. 102 and the 500 kV transmission
8 line certificated in Case Nos. 24 and 31. The details of these interconnections will be the subject
9 of contractual arrangements to be entered into between Applicant and APS, and Applicant and the
10 Salt River Project ("SRP"), respectively.
11

12 The issuance and approval of this Certificate of Environmental Compatibility by the
13 Commission will satisfy Condition No. 15 of the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility granted
14 to Applicant in Case No. 106.
15

16 This Certificate of Environmental Compatibility is granted upon the following conditions.

- 17 1. Applicant shall comply with all existing applicable air and water
18 pollution control standards and regulations, and with all existing
19 applicable ordinances, master plans and regulations of the State of
20 Arizona, the County of Maricopa, the United States and any other
21 governmental entities having jurisdiction.
- 22 2. This authorization to construct the aforementioned facilities shall
23 expire five (5) years from the date this Certificate of Environmental
24 Compatibility is approved by the Commission, unless construction is
25 completed to the point that the 500 kV transmission line and 500 kV
26 switchyard are capable of operating by that time; provided, however,
27 that prior to such expiration Applicant may request that the
28 Commission extend this time limitation.
3. Applicant shall provide the Commission with copies of the
aforementioned transmission arrangements it ultimately enters into
with APS and SRP, respectively.

1 GRANTED this ____ day of _____, 2001.

2
3
4 Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line
Siting Committee

5
6
7 By: _____
8 Laurie Woodall, Chair

9
10
11 **ORDER OF ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION AFFIRMING AND APPROVING**
12 **CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY**

13 Having considered the foregoing decision of the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line
14 Siting Committee in light of the decision-making factors specified in Arizona Revised Statutes §40-
15 360.06, and, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes §40-360.07(c), having balanced in the broad public
16 interest the need for an adequate, economical and reliable supply of electric power with the desire
17 to minimize the effect thereof on the environment and ecology of Arizona, it is the decision of this
18 Commission that the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility granted by the Committee on
19 _____, 2001 in Case No. 109 should be, and hereby is, affirmed and approved.
20
21
22

23 _____
Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Brian C. McNeil, Executive Secretary of the Arizona Corporation Commission, set my hand and cause the official seal of the Commission to be affixed hereto this _____ day of _____, 2001.

By: _____
Brian C. McNeil
Executive Secretary

Dissent: _____